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VOL. II-NO. 119

Bevin & American Jewry

Newspapers Report Alleged Complaint

London, Feb. 19. The Conservative press said that the Foreign Minister, Mr Ernest Bevin, told a private Parliamentary Labour Party meeting to-day that if it had not been for the influence of American Jewry, he could have reached a "temporary solution" of the Palestine problem.

Labour sources refused to comment on this.

Both the Evening Standard and the News said that Mr Bevin replied to the attacks of hostile Labourites on his Palestine policy by blaming United States Jewish influence.

The Standard said Mr Bevin told a group, "If I only had to deal with British Jewry, I could have reached a temporary solution of the problem, which would have ensured tranquillity for 20 years, during which a permanent arrangement could have been made."

The News said Mr Bevin referred to the "dangerous influence" of American Jewry. It said he hoped moderate Jews and moderate Arabs in Palestine would come together and cut the ground from under the extremists by forming a joint state on progressive lines.

The Standard said the Prime Minister, Mr Attlee, and six other Cabinet Ministers listened while Mr Michael Foot (Labour) challenged Mr Bevin to tear up the 1939 White Paper and a member of the Party's Foreign Affairs Committee asserted, "Mr Bevin has filed his petition in political bankruptcy."

MINISTER CHARGED

It said Mr John Paton charged that Mr Bevin had admitted "complete and abject failure" and accused him of "abdicating Britain's responsibility for operating the ministry."

Mr Bevin was said to have pledged that Britain would accept and stand by any decision on Palestine which the United Nations finally made, even if it meant evacuation of Palestine.

Palestine charges that his Palestine policy was conditioned by Arabo-American considerations based on an anti-Soviet attitude. Mr Bevin was quoted as saying:

"I want to tell this Party that the future security of this country is entirely dependent on good relations with America and I am acting on that basis in order to see that never again is 1939-41 repeated, when this country stood alone."

"I also want good relations with Soviet Russia, but if Soviet Russia wants to drive a wedge between us and America or America tried to work us against Russia, I am not going to play." —United Press.

New Air Service To Hongkong

Oakland, Calif., Feb. 19. The Transocean Air Lines said to-day it expects to inaugurate a non-scheduled plane service to Manila, Shanghai and Hongkong in a week or 10 days.

The company said planes will fly two trips weekly with passengers and cargo.

Transocean will use DC-4s and plans three-weekly flights from Oakland to Honolulu carrying freight only, beginning February 28.—Associated Press.

EDITORIAL

Freedom of the Press

MR Latimer, the Kowloon magistrate, this week supported freedom of the press in reporting and publishing comments made in open court. The remainder of this privilege does not come easily. Over the years, Hongkong newspapers have become familiar with the technique of tentative suggestions in public, and furtive overtures in private, advocating restrictions of the freedom of the press. In most cases such action would involve suppression of remarks or actions likely to embarrass, irrespective of whether publication is in the interests of the public. Those who would direct what should and what should not appear in print invariably ignore the fact that newspapermen and publishers are fully conscious of their responsibilities. It is generally acknowledged that a free press is a better guarantee of accurate, balanced and fearless reporting than any restrictive measures.

There is a not uncommon impression that newspapers possess unlimited licence in what they can publish. Where the press is subject to British law, this notion is erroneous. Editors and publishers are encompassed by a variety of legal restrictions and obligations. There is too, inherent in every newspaperman a certain pride in being able faithfully to record the events of the day, and he has a lively awareness of his duties, his privileges, and his responsibilities. The first function of a newspaper is to keep the public informed about events of the moment, without prejudice or favour. Any attempt to interfere with that function, whether by official control or

India's Next Viceroy?



LORD MOUNTBATTEN

Big Appointment For Mountbatten Rumour

London, Feb. 19. It is strongly rumoured in knowledgeable London quarters to-night that Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, former Supreme Commander of SEAC, will succeed Lord Wavell as Viceroy of India.

Official quarters declined to make any comment upon the suggestion. The Admiralty announced to-night that Lord Mountbatten had been appointed Rear-Admiral commanding the First Cruiser Squadron of the Mediterranean Fleet, the appointment to take effect in April this year. On January 6, he joined a senior officers' technical course at Portsmouth.

Persistent rumours and suggestions are current in London to-day to the effect that a change in the Viceroyalty of India is imminent.

STATEMENT AWAITED

Official quarters are silent on the subject but the political world is debating whether this will form one of the chief disclosures of the anxiously awaited statement of the British Government policy which the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee and the Secretary of State for India, Lord Pethick Lawrence, will make in Parliament to-morrow.

The Government statement tomorrow hinges to a large extent upon the Congress Party's recent communication to the Viceroy, Lord Wavell, that it considered the Moslem League's position in the Indian Interim Government untenable in view of the League's boycott of the Constituent Assembly.

The Cabinet has considered the Congress Party's representation together with a communication from the Army Air Forces in the Azores reported that an Air France Constellation plane sent out an SOS at 12.10 today about 340 miles south-west of Lisbon.

The plane was said to have been en route from Bermuda to Casablanca.

An Air France office at New York confirmed that the plane was in trouble but was unable to say how many people were on board. The United States steamer Robert Fulton and the Norwegian vessel Estrella were reported to be in the immediate vicinity.

RESCUE ON WAY

Two rescue aircraft are en route to the scene from Legens Field in the Azores and others from Port Lympia in French Morocco.

The Constellation, which left Bermuda at 9 p.m. on Tuesday took off from Legens Field at about 1 a.m. this morning. The plane radioed that all its cargo had been jettisoned and was circling the area where the ships Robert Fulton and Estrella were standing by.

A company spokesman said that the latest information available was that the plane had not yet come down in the sea but one of its four engines had failed.

The spokesman said the plane carried six passengers and a crew of eleven. The captain of the plane is Charles Le Chevalier of Paris. The passengers are given as Norman Rendel of White Plains, New York, Georges Chalange of Paris, Gladys Flori of Paris, Jean Seize of Heral, France, Maurice Savegourt of Troye, France and Maral Voyer of Paris.

Reuter.

Air Liner Catches Fire

Passengers Safe

Paris, Feb. 19. An Air France Constellation airliner carrying 17 persons landed safely at Casablanca, North Africa, to-day after one engine caught fire soon after the plane left the Azores on a New York-Paris flight.

An Air France communiqué said: "All passengers aboard the plane will be provided with a special plane to carry them on to Orly airport, Paris on February 20."

Earlier the New York Coast Guard headquarters stated that the Army Air Forces in the Azores reported that an Air France Constellation plane sent out an SOS at 12.10 today about 340 miles south-west of Lisbon.

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NO PREDICTIONS

With the Cabinet's announcement only 24 hours distant responsible observers show no inclination to predict the direction of the British Government's decision.

The announcement which Mr Attlee will make is understood to be of considerable length and it will be simultaneously from New Delhi.

It is almost certain that the Conservative opposition leader, Mr Winston Churchill, and his colleagues will question Mr Attlee on the terms of the statement and the anxious interest of Parliament may promote a lengthy interrogation of the Prime Minister.

The Government recognises that the House of Commons and the House of Lords may conceivably demand

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Reuter.

ALLEGHENY TRAIN CRASH TOLL

Altoona, Penn., Feb. 19. The death toll in the wreck of the Pennsylvania's Red Arrow yesterday is now set at 25 dead—10 passengers and nine of the train's crew.

The injured total 124, many of whom are in a critical condition and expected to die.

The famous train plunged over a 100-foot embankment in the heart of the scenic Allegheny mountains.

Reuter.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1947.

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Strike Called Off

San Francisco, Feb. 19. The Congress of Industrial Organisations Oil Workers to-day postponed for 24 hours the strike called against the west's largest oil refineries. Union leaders and a major oil company planned a meeting aimed at settling their wage dispute.

The President of the CIO Oil Workers International Union said he had ordered the postponement at the request of Commissioner Frank Wentig of the U.S. Conciliation Service.

The Standard Oil Company and the Union will meet to-day "in one final effort to reach agreement," according to the Union.—United Press.

13th Day Of Hunger Strike

Desperate Measures To Keep Warm

London, Feb. 20. Old people were burning bannisters and picture frames to keep warm in some parts of England yesterday, and the month-long cold wave that hastened the collapse of the country's fuel system continued with no forecast of an early relief.

The temperature dropped to 19 degrees below zero in some districts on Tuesday night and was below freezing generally yesterday.

London's proverbially gloomy weather broke an all-time record. For the 18th successive day the sun failed to penetrate thick grey clouds. Seventeen days in December, 1890, was the longest previous sunless period.

Suburban Luton, following the lead of Berlin, opened the first emergency warming centre for old people. Hot drinks as well as heat were provided from 10 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Ice floes interrupted navigation on the river Maas, in south Belgium. Little "midget icebergs" choked the Scheldt estuary.

Vast ice field drifted in the North Sea and off the channel coasts.

ON THE CONTINENT

Temperatures in the Paris region dropped to 19 degrees Fahrenheit, a drop of about six degrees from Tuesday's lowest, the sharpest weather of the current cold spell.

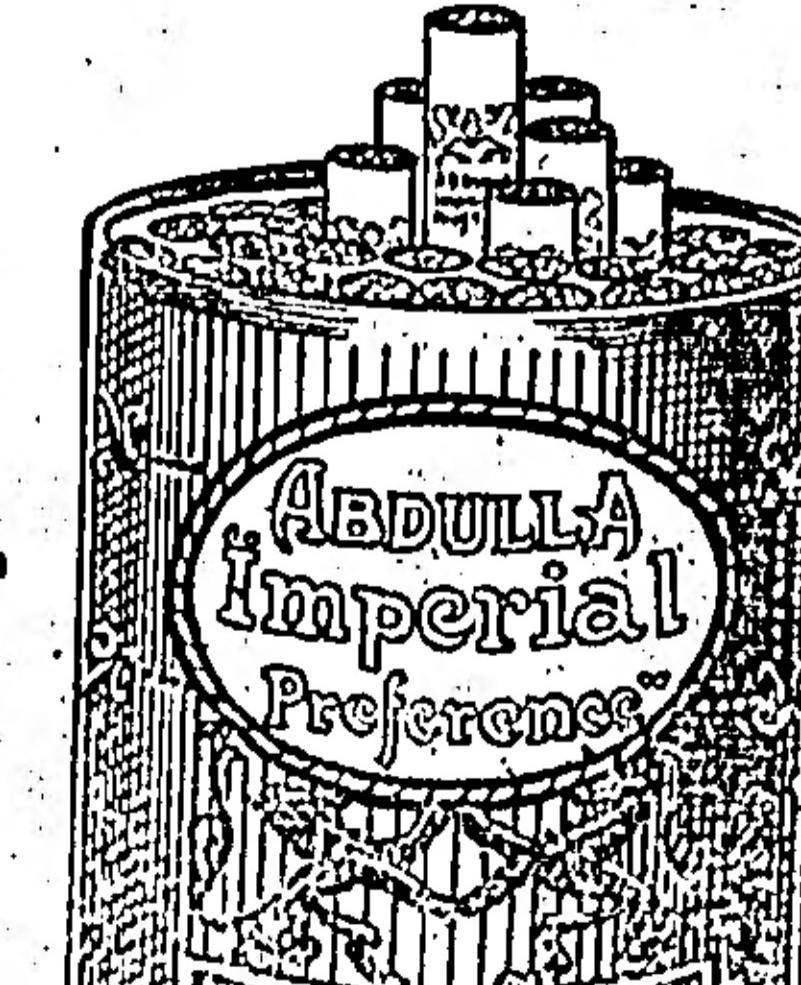
Belgian temperatures hovered around 29 degrees.

Continued bad weather in Rome kept public works project labourers, most of them engaged in clearing jobs on the banks of the Tiber, from working the required minimum of 24 hours weekly, and they called for special Government assistance.

Rising temperatures were reported in southern Italy, however, Berlin with 20 degrees of frost and snow flurries, had at least five more deaths from freezing. The city's warming hails overflowed and queues formed before many of them.

A new temperature drop in south Germany kept dozens of factories idle and sent hundreds of Germans to the woods in a desperate search for fuel. U.S. Army forecasters predicted new snowfalls and continued cold for an indefinite period.—Associated Press.

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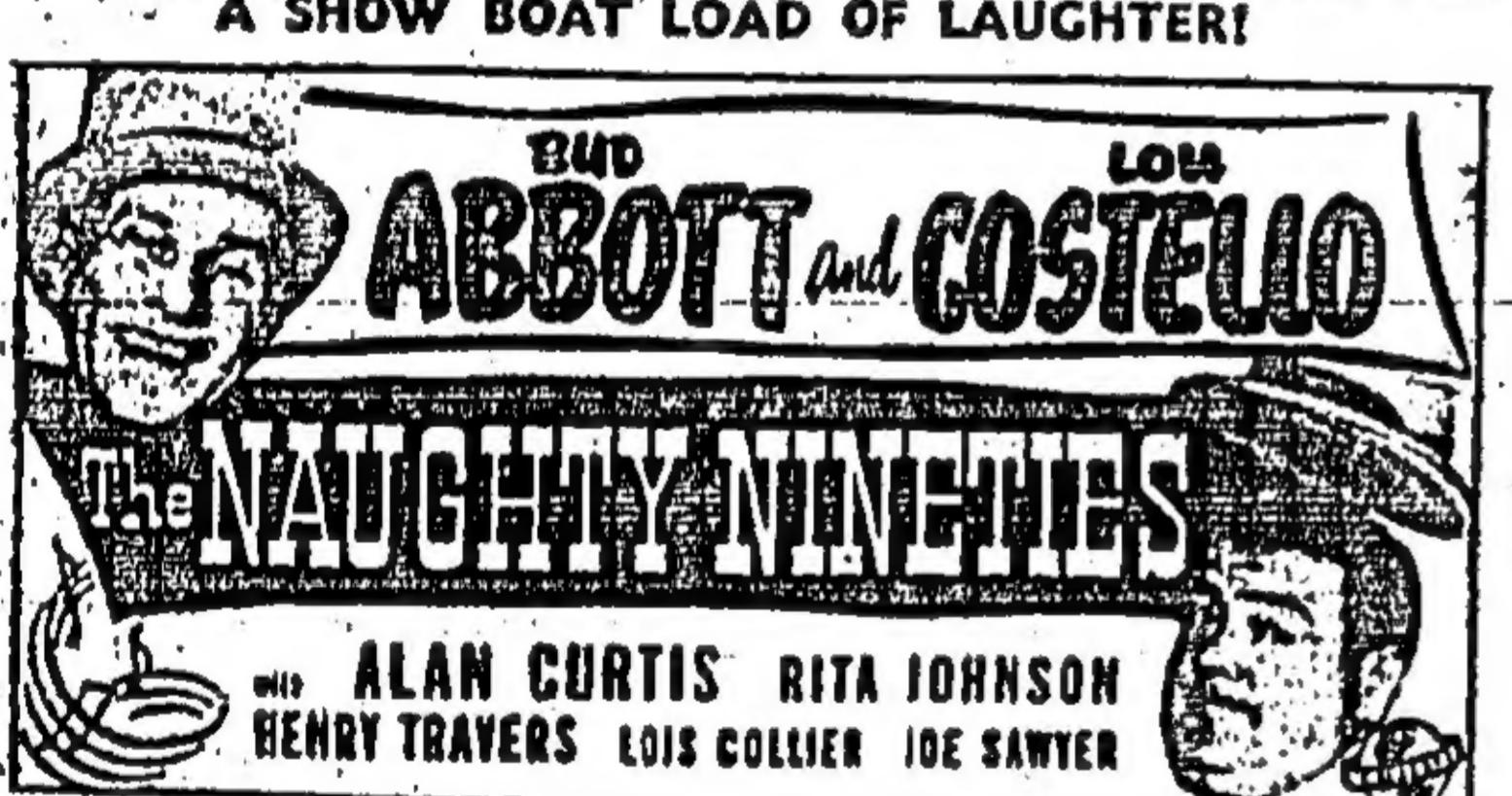
QUEEN'S

At 2.30, 5.15,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.MORE THRILLING AND STARTLING THAN
'LEAVE HER TO HEAVEN'!
Here is a story of the secret tears of all women since
the World began!

CENTRAL & ALHAMBRA
DAILY AT 2.30 5.15 7.15 & 9.15 P.M. DAILY AT 2.30 5.15 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
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ORIENTAL
FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30-5.15-7.15-9.15 P.M.
A SHOW BOAT LOAD OF LAUGHTER!



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CEETHEATRE TAI PING THEATRE

At 2.30, 5.10, 7.10
& 9.15 p.m. At 12.30, 2.30, 7.15
& 9.15 p.m.

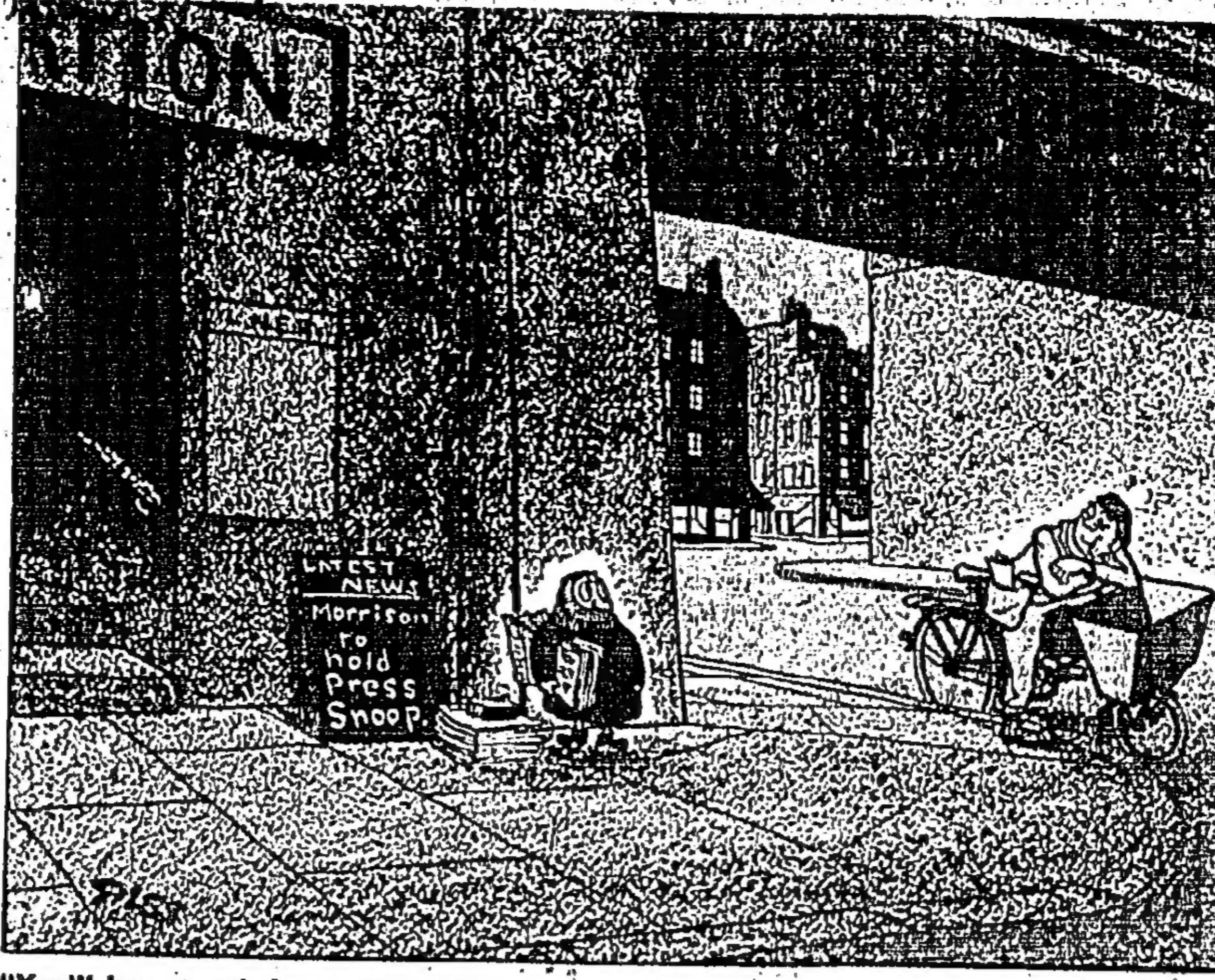
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All over the world there's a shortage of houses, and lack of accommodation is a universal headache. This is a report on

How THE HOMELESS IN BRITAIN LIVE

MR. and Mrs. Michael McInerney and their three young sons, bombed out of their Streatham home in 1944, are living to-day in a crowded, curtained-off rest centre at Battersea, S.W.8.

They are one of the families—there are 1,350 in Greater London alone—for whom no better home can be found than official hostels and the miserable makeshifts we accepted part of the blitz.

Perhaps you thought that rest centres disappeared with the end of blackout and the tearing down of street air raid shelters. They were certainly meant to. Many districts did, in fact, get their centres closed before the drift back to London, and the demobilization of thousands of Servicemen, rocketed the problem of homeless families higher than it had ever been in the worst days of the war.

Other districts, slower at finding accommodation for their blitzed population, were caught up in the aftermath. They have had to cope with evictions made on possession orders and on the grounds of overcrowding.

But while the whole country suffers from the housing shortage, the Ministry of Health say that practically no rest centres remain outside London.

What we do know is this: In September last year there were 911 families in Greater London who would have been thrown on the streets or into institutions if stop-gap accommodation had not been provided. In December the number had risen to 1,312. And on January 4 this year the total was 1,350 families.

Of the 1,350 families, more than 300 are now in rest centres and more than 1,000 in requisitioned properties which some councils call hostels and some half-way houses.

How are they living in the rest centres? Let us go back to ex-prisoner-of-war Michael McInerney his wife Ellen, and their boys, Brian, Michael, Alan.

The school in Battersea Park road—which can house anything up to 150 people—is run with regimental precision. The superintendent is an ex-Army captain. It is warm, clean and as comfortable an ingenuity and good will can make it. The food is plentiful and well cooked.

THE McInerneys have no privacy. Each family is given a curtained-off cubicle, varying in size with the number of people in the family unit. Only the sketchiest family possessions can be kept.

Each person has a camp bed and bedding with cots for the babies. The tenants also get an issue of cutlery, kept in a mug in the cubicle. If a fork or knife is lost it is its owner's responsibility to replace it.

Meals are eaten communally, and there is a 24-hour service to provide for shift workers.

As bathing and sanitary facilities are those of an ordinary elementary school, the men find washing and shaving difficult. In wash-basins suitable for children of nine or ten years. A separate bathroom has been set aside for the babies, who are washed in zinc baths set on tables.

Poor as the accommodation is, almost every one of the people there will tell you they are happy and thankful to have a roof over their heads. Most of them have been there three or four months, and most are from districts outside Battersea. One family is to be rehoused by Streatham, others by Islington, Finchley and Deptford.

Each family is responsible for keeping its own room clean, and for cleaning the bathroom or kitchen after use. Passages and stairs are cleaned daily by a cleaner from the council offices.

For this accommodation adults pay 5s. per week, 3s. for children, and this charge includes heating and light, and laundering of bed linen.

MAIDEN: In a half-way house each family has its own bedroom or bedrooms, with its own furniture entirely. Two large downstairs rooms are used as dining rooms, each family having its own dining room furniture. In the large kitchen, every family has its own cooking stove and its own sink.

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INTO this refuge, also drift sometimes the human flotsam and jetsam which, pre-war, would have normally gone to the poorhouse.

There is another type of L.C.C. rest centre which in one stage became a house or group of houses adapted for hostel purposes.

A typical example is at St. George's-square, Westminster. Here, three tall houses with pillared porches have been made into one large house, where each family has a bedroom of its own. Where one is large, it has two bedrooms.

Here again meals are eaten in a common dining room. There is better provision and a room for bathing. All doors are padlocked when the owner is absent, and this gives a greater sense of privacy.

Charges at the rest centres are extremely reasonable—3s. a day per adult, with graduated charges for children. For this sum residents have full board and lodging, light heat—some have coal fires—some radiators—and hot water.

THE remainder of the 1,350 families are in the best expedient of the three. These are called Half-way Houses. It may be coincidence, but the authorities showing the best results in half-way houses are those where a woman house-keeping manager or housing manager is in charge.

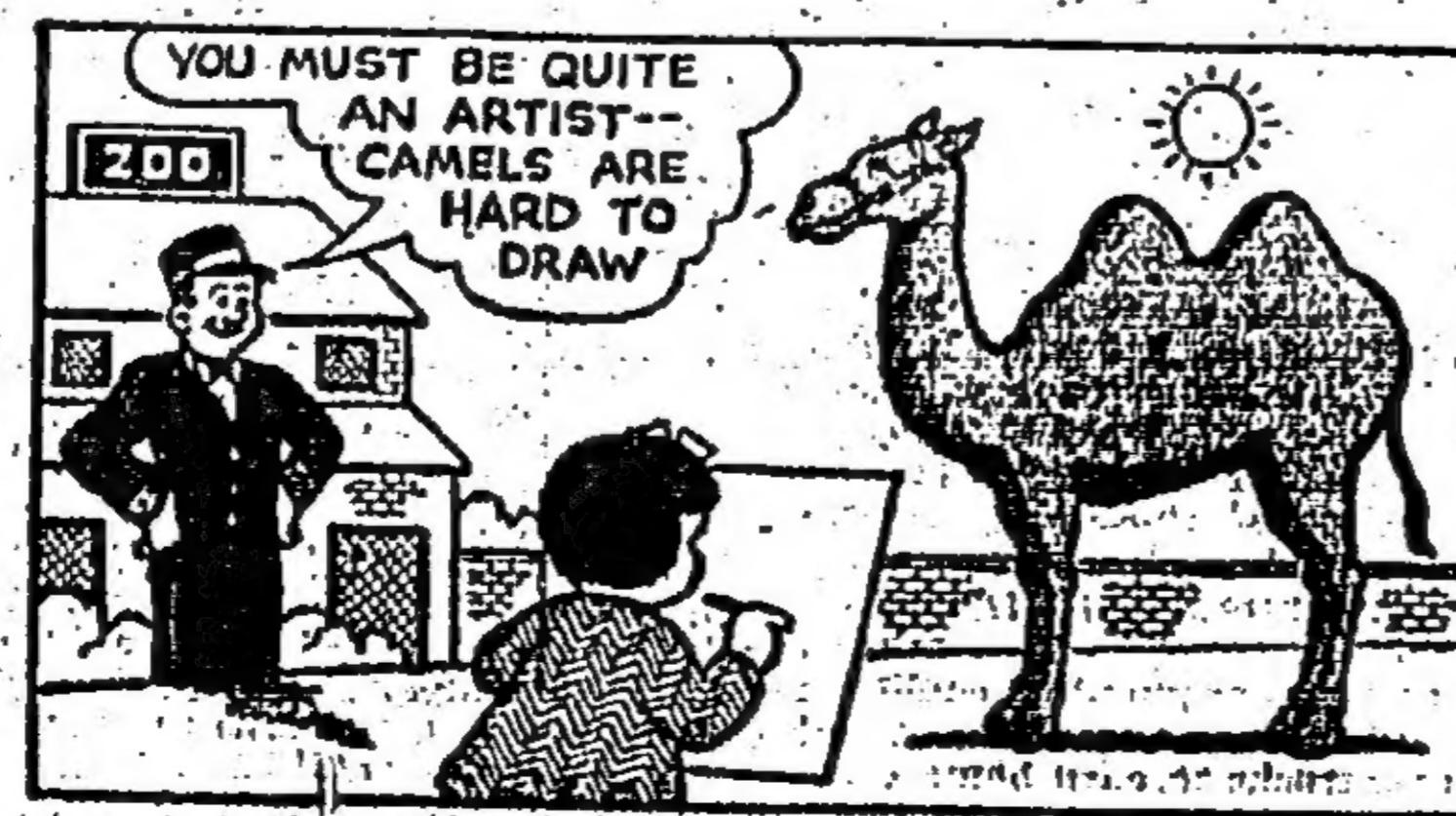
To show what can be done in an ordinary working-class district and in a middle-class residential area, here is what I found in two types at Fulham and Malden in Surrey. Both have women in charge.

FULHAM: Two three-storey terraced-type houses have been made into one unit. Each family is given a bed-sitting room (and extra bedroom if the family is large).

Each family provides its own meals, cooking them in the basement kitchens, where two stoves have to be shared amicably between the tenants. The meals are then carried to the family's room and eaten there.

Washing-up is done in the kitchens and kitchen towels, as well as crockery and cooking utensils, are provided by the council.

NANCY Merely an Adaptation



By Ernie Bushmiller



U.S. ECONOMY AT THE CROSSROADS

By HARRY W. FRANTZ

United Press Staff Correspondent

After a turbulent year in its economic and political life, the United States in 1947 faces the basic problem of establishing the "expanding economy" which is indispensable to national prosperity and world recovery.

The United States entered the postwar period with profound confidence in its production capacity and general belief that expanding production of farm, mine and factory would raise the standard of living at home, and contribute rapidly to economic normality abroad.

Unforeseen at V-J Day were the long series of great industrial strikes culminating with the coal shutdown in 1946, the violent controversy over price controls as an anti-inflationary device, the stock market slump, and the startling political upset marked by Republican recovery of majorities in both the Senate and House of Representatives. Equally unpredictable was the fact that civilian employment would exceed all records and belie forecasts of postwar unemployment.

Major Riddles

THIS year, the common sense of the general public and the deep hopes of the world are concerned with three major riddles, to which tentative answers may be afforded by the Eighth Congress of the United States:

1. Can a shattering "second round" of industrial strikes in 1947 be avoided by revision of the labour laws, especially the Wagner Act, or clarifications of existing laws by the courts, or both?

2. Will a Republican-controlled Congress modify the party's traditional policy of high tariff "protection" to national industries, or continue an international trade policy and programme based generally on the down-scaling of "protection"?

3. Can the recent trend toward elimination of war-imposed controls on industry, domestic and international commerce be continued and confirmed without new "inflationary" pressures on the general economy?

The logic of election results and the wishes of United States industrial and commercial organisations point to a "conservative" trend of legislation and governmental administration, marked by a reduced national budget, less interference of government in business, and the freer play of supply and demand in marketing.

Laissez Faire

THE philosophy of the hour seems closer to the old laissez faire principle than to the New Deal programme of governmental initiative and planning that had evolved during President Roosevelt's terms of office.

Favouring the progressive solution of the United States' major economic problems was an apparent relaxing of international political tension in the last weeks of 1946. The uneasiness about a third world war, which prevailed at mid-year, had obviously been relieved by the effective function of the United Nations Council and Assembly.

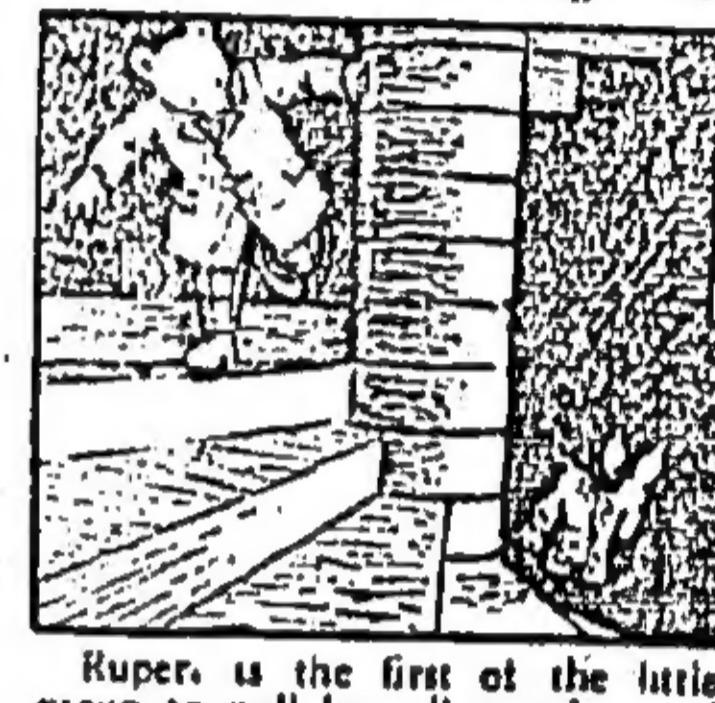
This in turn promised to avert all-out armament races, and would encourage reduced governmental budgets, less burdensome taxation, and the direction of the economy toward peacetime industrial production in the United States and other countries.

Whither?

IN the United States, there exists an intense pride in the industrial "know how" and mass production capacity that was proved during the World War. Scientists have invaded every branch of economy with new techniques and efficiency-aiding devices. The belief widely prevails that a system of competitive free enterprise can prove its superiority to communistic and totalitarian methods.

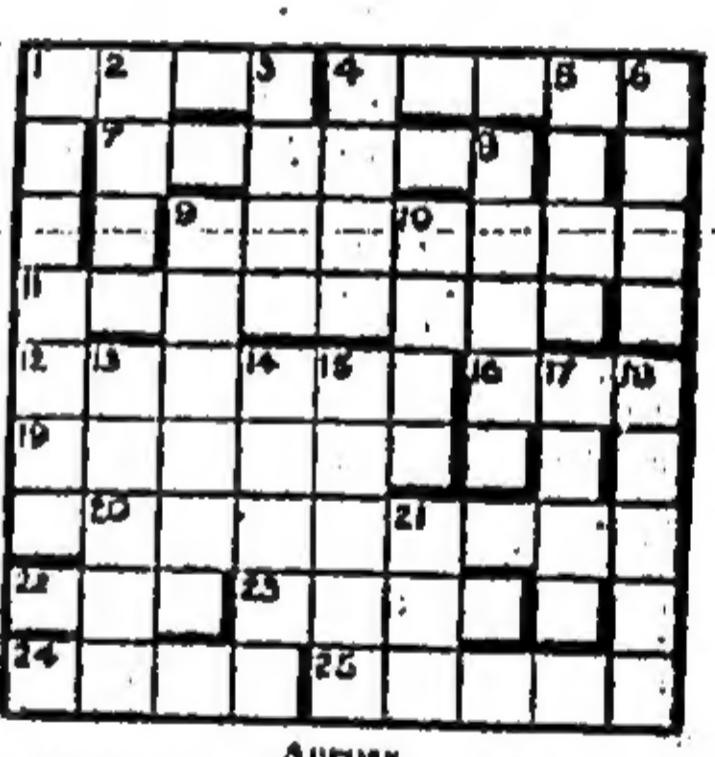
Nineteen-forty-seven may indicate whether the United States is to embark successfully on the realization of traditional economic principles and objectives, or take a new and yet unpredictable course of politico-economic evolution.

Rupert and Ninky—40



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CROSSWORD



1. Impetuous (6)
2. Has in the centre a space (10)
3. Pantomime, composer, a pupil (10)
4. A run (10) may be seen in the garden disguised (7)
5. Not the miserly old dame perhaps but not the mischievous (10)
6. Where you never get out over (10)
7. Unfinished up car (10). See 1 Down.
8. Contentedly over (3)
9. Person who might come (6)
10. Arrayed (6)
11. Let's hope the hen is (10)

Down
1 and 20. Acronym. A brilliant stock...
3. A musical instrument (4)
4. Running water (4)
5. A written message (4)
6. A broken (4)
7. The lady is upset (4)
8. Trees the leaves are used for...
9. The sound of short quick steps made possible by the person (6)
10. Desert ship or cargo ship (10)
11. A ride in different formation (6)
12. Taken from equine (10)
13. It may be a step in the right direction (4)
14. French name (6)
15. Initially the Association of Hospital Services (3)
16. Solution of yesterday's puzzle (10)
17. Name of a month (10). October 1946.
18. Name of a month (10). November 1946.
19. Name of a month (10). December 1946.
20. Name of a month (10). January 1947.
21. Name of a month (10). February 1947.
22. Name of a month (10). March 1947.
23. Name of a month (10). April 1947.
24. Name of a month (10). May 1947.

Acrostics
1. Musical instrument (4)
2. Running water (4)
3. Written message (4)
4. Desert ship or cargo ship (10)
5. A ride in different formation (6)
6. Taken from equine (10)
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Solution of yesterday's puzzle (10)

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7. Name of a month (10). April 1947.

8. Name of a month (10). May 1947.

9. Name of a month (10). June 1947.

10. Name of a month (10). July 1947.

11. Name of a month (10). August 1947.

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25. Name of a month (10). October 1948.

26. Name of a month (10). November 1948.

27. Name of a month (10). December 1948.

28. Name of a month (10). January 1949.

29. Name of a month (

This Space Every Day

Women BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed for Lois Leeds

Take a good look at your eyes. Pretty enough? No? Then read what Lois Leeds says.

EYE BEAUTY

Care. The beauty of the eyes may be cultivated and enhanced by health, cleanliness and cosmetics. Sleep, rest and an eye bath each and every day, will do much for the health of your eyes. Always bathe your eyes with good eye lotion or a solution of boracic acid. Always keep an eyecup and, do, by the way, keep it sterile with hot water.

Eye pads are grand for relaxing and resting tired eyes. I believe that pads soaked in warm water or milk are the most soothing. If you can take time out for a few minutes, cleanse your face and throat, wash your eyes, smooth on some eye cream and over this apply a compress or eye pads.

To lighten dark circles around the eyes, use a little makeup cream in a lighter tone than the one that you use for the entire face. Work it in smoothly, blend and powder. Use eyeshadow on the lids to detract from the dark circles.

Exercise. Exercises for the eyes are no easy to do that you may do them at any time in the day. For the business woman, one minute while sitting at your desk or typewriter. One minute while washing the dinner or using the vacuum cleaner.

Rolling your eyes is excellent for strengthening the eye muscles. Look straight ahead. Now lower and

Quiet Distinction**5-Minute Makeup
by GABRIELLE**

A famous Hollywood makeup man says that every woman needs three Upsticks. One for Type, one for Fashion and one for Evening. And why not? Lights change and you wear different costume colors.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"You'd better speak to Johnny—he can imitate his sister's voice perfectly, and he's got one of her boy friends on the side now."

ATOM BOMB BIRTHPLACE HUK REPORT NOW PERMANENT CENTRE

Los Alamos, in New Mexico, birthplace of America's atomic bomb, is to-day the scene of great building activity, says Associated Press.

In the words of the commanding officer of the United States Army's testing post, Los Alamos is being made into "an installation dedicated to continued atomic research" and "a permanent community for long-time occupancy."

Temporary buildings erected during the war are being replaced with attractive permanent homes and other structures. Los Alamos housewives, plagued by dust, in summer and by mud in winter, welcome the paving of streets, laying of sidewalks and planting of grass.

Residents of the atomic city were poorly housed during the war—in army barracks, motor vehicle trailer camps and sub-standard dwellings.

More than 350 new homes now are being built in the valleys and mesas, high in the Jemez mountains. Most are low houses built of concrete blocks. Some are prefabricated dwellings of steel. Construction is under way or plans are made to have modern school buildings, a church, stores and a theatre.

Gas For Cooking

Installation of new electric generators will increase the project's power plant to 7,000 kilowatts, and an eight-inch natural gas pipeline is being installed, the gas to be used for cooking and heating purposes. Local gas will reduce the traffic load required to haul coal up to this 7,400-foot elevation.

Deep wells have been drilled along the nearby Rio Grande River, and a 14-inch water main, with a capacity of more than 1,000,000 gallons a day, has been installed. A modern sewage system with complete disposal equipment also is being completed.

During the war years, Los Alamos scientists, physicians, technicians and workmen had little opportunity to relax and rest, but now a golf course, country club and horse stables are being added to the fine fishing and hunting facilities provided by the surrounding mountains.

LAW CRACKS DOWN ON IN-LAWS

Red with fury, Judge Dunne, Acting Chief Justice of the Chicago circuit court, recently declared war on interfering in-laws and threatened gaol for those who interfered in his divorce cases.

The judge was hearing evidence from Raymond Nimmer, 27, whose wife was divorcing him, when Nimmer produced business records to show what he could pay his wife.

Nimmer said: "Judge, please talk with me and my wife before you make any order. I have had constant interference from my mother-in-law."

He told the couple to have a private chat with him later.

Uses For Bomb Rubble

Germans are rebuilding their houses from their salvaged war-snarfed rubble in Wurttemberg-Baden, a Military Government report said.

A growing source of building material is the crumbled debris of destroyed buildings.

Crushing the rubble and separating it from twisted metal, German workers mix it with cement to make concrete blocks, tiles, hollow brick stones and ceiling beams.

One Stuttgart plant alone produces 40,000 roofing tiles, 100,000 bricks, 3,000 hollow block stones and 300 metres of ceiling beams a month from the rubble. Associated Press.

SHARK TRAPPED BY LEG BAIT

An artificial leg was used in Victoria, Australia, recently to trap a 15-foot white shark. The shark had been swimming up and down outside the women's swimming baths. It was caught when a piece of pork bait fashioned to look like a woman's leg was put into the water.

There is no record of these sharks ever having attacked a human being, and the zoologist gave no reason for using the strangely shaped bait.

Examination of the stomachs of this and other sharks have shown them to have eaten a large Newfoundland dog, a bulldog, part of a horse, a pig, several sheep, a piece of scaffolding, a ship's scraper and some whalebone. Associated Press.

DESERT WASTE SCENE OF BIG OPAL STRIKE

Coober Pedy, in Australia's wastelands, looks like just another place in the desert except for a scattering of shacks and tents. But it is the home of some very wealthy men, men who are growing richer week by week from their finds in a fabulous opal strike.

How rich they are is their own secret. And the comparative comfort of their homes is equally hidden. The homes and even the store and post office of the little camp are in caves or dugouts. The desert heat, which often reaches 125 degrees Fahrenheit, helped to drive them underground, and the lack of wood in the barren country sped the process.

Unlike the lusty, noisy gold camps, the opal diggings are quiet. Opal miners are individuals—themselves, secretive, unscrupulous. There is no liquor and little gambling. The men prefer to sit in their caves and polish their opals.

The new strike was made early in 1946, near some old workings where a few miners had been leading a meager existence. But news of the discovery did not reach the population centres of Australia for several months. And then the report came almost by accident. The miners simply transferred their operations to the nearby field and said nothing. They still say nothing. They simply have more, many more, opals for sale when the buyers come in from Adelaide.

Coober Pedy is located in one of the bleakest wastes in Australia. Water is so scarce that it sells for about 14 cents a gallon. Its only source is a big underground storage tank to catch the infrequent rains. Associated Press.

LIQUID OPIUM SEIZED

De Quincey has told of opium eaters, but there are evidently opium drinkers as well.

This was revealed when Sydney Customs men seized quiet bottles of liquid opium on the tanker Peckhuyzen.

Mixed with 99 parts of water, this drink is described as "not bad." But it has "a kick" in it.

The Peckhuyzen arrived in Sydney from the Persian Gulf. Chinese crew of the tanker went to great pains to conceal the forbidden drug.

Sticks of opium, ready for use, and crude opium in powder form, were also found hidden in dark corners, and even in the steering gear.

Value of the haul—the biggest made in Australia for some time—is not yet been determined.

Divorce Allowed In Poland

The Polish Ministry of Justice has completed codification of the new Polish civil laws, including those which permit divorce in a 90 per cent Catholic country and providing marriages by civil registrar as the only legal ceremony, reports Associated Press.

IRAQ EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON

The Iraq Government has announced that the Iraq Legation in Washington is to be raised to the status of an Embassy in reparation for similar action taken by the United States with respect to its Legation in Baghdad.

It is expected that All Jawdat, the present Iraq Minister in Washington, will be designated as the first Ambassador. Associated Press.

HUNGRY GERMANS

With zero weather heightening their mood of despair, German civilians in the past few weeks have begun to show positive signs of resentment against the American occupation.

This is reported by the New York "Herald-Tribune" correspondent at Frankfurt, in the US zone.

The word "democracy" has become an object of derision, he says.

If a tram reserved for American military personnel passes through the city virtually empty while hundreds of Germans wait for their overcrowded trams, caustic comments of "That's democracy," are heard.

When German police and American military police stage routine control raids to check identity papers, they are labelled "Democracy in action."

A current saying is: "I'd rather be a well-fed Nazi pig than a starving democrat."

One story in circulation is: "A girl comments: 'Oh, how terrible it is that former inmates of concentration camps get extra food rations!' and asks 'When is it all going to end?'"

"Don't worry, daughter," says her mother. "It will last only until they are back in a concentration camp."

It's impossible to avoid a deepening sense of the depression which is gripping German civilians, add the correspondents.

Cold weather and no fuel, ration tickets and no food, promises and no

KING'S SETS STIR IN MANILA

The publication of an exclusive interview by the Associated Press with the hunted Hukbalah Supreme, Luis Taruc, caused a stir in Manila with Secretary of Interior Jose Zulueta renewing the invitation to the Huk chieftain for surrender.

The Interior Secretary, who is directing a campaign to put down the armed peasant movement, said the door is still open for the Hukbalahaps to return to the ways of peace. He asserted they would be assured of their constitutional rights and "full protection of the law they now challenge."

The Manila Bulletin commented editorially: "When a newspaper reporter can seek out and talk with a man who has slipped through the reinforced fingers of law for months on end, the concentrated efforts of the military police command take on something of comic opera hue."

The paper said Taruc "is appealing once more for public sympathy with the same kind of apparent sincerity that had been established false on repeated occasions."

The independent Manila Chronicle said: "The important and pressing matter is the institution of reforms which is the objective needed whether the Hukks give up their guns or not."

"Ever without the Hukks, the agrarian problem in central Luzon must be solved, and only reforms can solve it." Associated Press.

NOW SHOWING

* KINGS *

At 2.30, 5.10,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

Certain Together In a Way You'll Never Forget!
DEANNA DURBIN JOSEPH COHEN
Hers to Hold
CHARLES WINNINGER EVELYN ANKERS GUS SCHILLING NELLA WALKER LUDWIG STOESSL
DEANNA Sings...
"Begin the Beguine", "Say a Prayer for the Boys Over There", "Kashmir Song", "Sequidilla".

ADDED! LATEST GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS

CENTRAL THEATRE

— 5 SHOWS DAILY —
At 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
THE FINAL EPISODE

She moves like a flash like the wind like the can punch like ram like battering ram
BATMAN with daring young Robin, the Boy Wonder
The mighty red-blooded American hero comes to thrilling life in new adventure serial
Based on the Batman comic magazine and Batman magazines with Lewis Wilson, Douglas Croft, Carroll Keeler, Shirley Patterson, a Columbia chapter play
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Screen Play by Sam Wood, Leslie Hiscott, Ray Foster • Directed by Andrew L. Stone • Story by Andrew L. Stone

ALHAMBRA

TO-DAY ONLY

2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

YANK HEROISM TRIES TO SAVE PEARL HARBOR!

JOHN HOWARD CHAPMAN
Brook Bennett, Elmer Clifton, Harry Woods, Roger Clegg
ACOLUMETRA PICTURE
TO-MORROW! Walt Disney's PINOCCHIO

Measuring Sea Depth From Air

By comparing the two photographs, expert interpreters can state the depth of the water at any point to within three feet, so long as some point of known depth is shown on one of the runs of photographs. The reason for this exact interpretation is that coastal sea water has a maximum transparency for green light and a considerably reduced transparency for red light. Objects below the water, therefore, appear much darker with the red than with the green filter.

As a companion to this scheme, infra-red film is also used to ascertain the exact position of the high water mark. On normal panchromatic film shallow water is often very difficult to detect on an air photograph, but by use of infra-red film and filters the water is rendered black on the print and the water mark is thus easy to trace.



Austrian Seizures By Soviet Not Recognised

SAUDI ARABIA'S CROWN PRINCE

London, Feb. 19. The Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Amir Saud, who is arriving in London to-morrow, will be staying in London as the guest of the British Government, on his way home from the United States, it was authoritatively learned to-day. The Crown Prince is not coming to London on official business, it was stated. He is expected to stay about a week.—Reuter.

SEES END OF EMPIRE PREFERENCE

Canberra, Feb. 19. Empire Preference is doomed, no matter how much Australia or other food producing countries want to keep it, Dr H. C. Coombs, Australian Director-General of Reconstruction, was reported to-day to have told members of the Australian Parliamentary Labour Party.

Dr Coombs, Party members said, declared that preference would have decided that preference would have to go, Britain had been forced into a position in which she would have to increase her exports by at least 75 percent over her prewar level. It was impossible for other British Commonwealth countries to provide the markets for this extra output.

The United States was the only market with this absorptive capacity and therefore Britain had to agree to the abandonment of Empire Preference so as to get the United States market.—Reuter.

SUSPECTED ROBBER IN U.S. EMBASSY

Rome, Feb. 19. United States Embassy officials announced to-day that an Italian, apparently attempting a robbery, had been captured in the Embassy grounds at 3 a.m. after the Marine guards and Italian police had fired 15 shots from revolvers at the man.

An alert Marine guard first saw the man and fired a warning shot. When the Italian sought to escape, other guards and police joined in the fire.

The officials said the man, who was not identified, was turned over to the Italian police for criminal investigation. The police said the case was a matter of "common thievery."—United Press.

TUNISIANS WANT FRENCH ALLIANCE

Paris, Feb. 19. An alliance with France was advocated to-day by Ben Romdhane, president of the Tunisian section of the Grand Council, in a speech at Tunis.

In order to settle problems vital to the country, help from France was indispensable "as well as an alliance with France," he said.

It was announced last December that the Tunisian Grand Council, at present only elected by limited suffrage and partly by the Tunisian administration, was to be represented by an assembly elected by universal suffrage and composed of French and Tunisians in equal numbers.—Reuter.

MOSCOW ACCUSES U.S. OF MILITARY IMPERIALISM

New York, Feb. 19. Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov has not yet answered United States Secretary of State Gen George C. Marshall's vigorous note in defence of Under-Secretary Dean Acheson, but Soviet criticism of United States "military imperialism" by the maintenance of troops in China and "many other countries" was renewed to-day by Radio Moscow.

Commentator Anatoli Osipov said the presence of American troops in non-enemy countries is one of the most serious questions in postwar international relations. He quoted former Interior Secretary Harold Ickes as saying that President Truman has gone back on his word that the United States does not seek territorial expansion.

Osipov said the United States has troops in Europe, Greenland, Iceland, Australia, South America, the Arctic and the Near and Far East. He said the democratic people of the world can see no justification for the presence of American troops in non-enemy territory.—United Press.

The American deputy, General Mark Clark, told to-day's Deputies' discussion of German assets in Austria that the United States had never recognised and would never recognise the legality of many of the Soviet seizures of property in Austria.

He said the United States recognised as binding the character of the Potsdam Agreement, but because of the vagueness of the wording on the subject of German assets in Austria the Deputies must seek a clear definition.

He said Austria should be obliged to hand over, in accordance with the Potsdam Agreement and Four-Power decision, property which they agreed should be transferred, but this property should be subject to Austrian law in future.

General Clark said the question of German assets was a crucial factor in Austria's economic recovery, but repeated discussions for nearly two years in Vienna had been fruitless because of the repeated refusal of his Soviet colleague there to discuss the matter either bilaterally or on the Allied Commission.

He said the United States did not recognise many instances of property in Austria because they contradicted the Potsdam Agreement.

GUSEV'S INSISTENCE

The Soviet Deputy, Mr. Feodor Gusev, presenting his draft on German assets, insisted that the question was a political one which involved the separation of Austria from Germany.

The Potsdam Agreement made the position quite clear on this issue, he said, but the Austrian Government preferred not to recognise these decisions, and no steps had been undertaken by Austria for recognition or fulfilment of the Potsdam Agreement since the Austrian Foreign Secretary, Dr. Carl Gruber, finally recognised it before the Deputies.

Gusev did not agree that German assets should revert to Austrian legal jurisdiction or that German assets which were not to go to any of the Allies should go to Austria. This was contrary to the Potsdam Agreement, he insisted.

EXTRATERRITORIAL RIGHTS

Clark also insisted that Gruber's recognition of the Potsdam Agreement before the Deputies some three weeks ago was quite adequate.

He contended that Gusev's contention restricted Austria's sovereignty and tended to give extraterritorial rights within that country; besides, it failed to recognise Austria's right to nationalise property if proper payment were made; altogether that it tended to nullify the setting up of an independent state.

MISCONCEPTION

The British proposal on German assets suggested defining them as enterprises owned by Germans on August 2, 1945 or before March, 1938, thus taking in those owned before and following the Anschluss. Clark agreed to this in principle.

The Russian proposal provided that German assets belonging to the Allies before the Anschluss should revert to them as well as any transferred to Germany afterwards, except where it was forced upon Austrian owners. There was no exact definition of assets.

The Deputies, in view of the complexity of the issue, agreed that it should be referred to the Economic Committee and asked for a report back by February 24.—United Press.

COMMONS STATEMENT

London, Feb. 19. Mr Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary, urged by Labour Member Peter Freeman to make a statement on Austria, replied in the House of Commons to-day that he would bear in mind the possibility of making such a statement, but he thought that the British Government's policy was in general well known to the Austrian Government and public, as it had been made clear on many occasions.

Mr. Bevin added: "The British Government take their stand upon the Moscow declaration of 1943 (on Austrian independence) and members of Parliament will also be aware that negotiations on an Austrian treaty are at present being carried on by the Deputies in London and I hope will be com-

pleted for the Foreign Ministers at Moscow next month."

SWITCH ON NEXT MONDAY

(Continued from Page 1)

North Sea ice-floes are to-day menacing not only Britain's fishing fleets but also coal ships battling down the stormy east coast with fuel urgently needed to build up power station and industrial stocks in London.

Driving westward at about eight kilometres per day, the floes carried away buoys, markings and wrecks and were at noon to-day reported about 80 kilometres off Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

MINIATURE ICEBERGS

The largest of the many ice-floes reported in the past week by British fishermen in the fishing grounds of the North Sea are said to be 800 metres wide and about five metres high above water level. Trawler crews arriving at the fishing port of Lowestoft reported that it took 26 minutes to pass the ice.

These miniature icebergs are larger than anything ever seen in the southern part of the North Sea.

Bitterly cold conditions prevail in the fishing grounds and ships return covered with ice.

Osipov said: "The Danish People and their government demand that Greenland be freed from American troops. The Brazilian newspaper Tribune Popular declares the return of air bases and the withdrawal of American troops is imperative to-day for the political and economic independence of Brazil. The same sentiment is echoed by the people of China, Panama and many other countries."—United Press.

People who have fallen under American occupation regimes voice a definite protest against the encroachment of their liberty and sovereignty, Osipov said. Tiny Iceland has been wrangling with America for many months about when American troops will be withdrawn.

Osipov said: "The Danish People and their government demand that Greenland be freed from American troops. The Brazilian newspaper Tribune Popular declares the return of air bases and the withdrawal of American troops is imperative to-day for the political and economic independence of Brazil. The same sentiment is echoed by the people of China, Panama and many other countries."—United Press.

POCKET CARTOON



REPEAL OF CONTROLS

Truman's Message To Congress

Washington, Feb. 19. President Harry Truman to-day took steps to remove wartime controls in operation because of the "State of emergency" declared by President Franklin Roosevelt in 1939.

He asked Congress to repeal or amend 100 temporary laws put into effect as the result of the emergency.

In a message to Congress, President Truman said: "The progress of re-conversion now makes it possible to take additional steps towards freeing the economy of wartime controls. Accordingly, I am recommending to Congress to repeal certain temporary statutes still in effect by virtue of emergencies proclaimed by the President in 1939 and 1941, and I have requested executive departments and agencies to cease operations under powers derived from certain permanent statutes."

Among the acts which President Truman asks should be repealed is one authorising the disposition of ships under Lend-Lease to foreign Powers.

Also affected are the statutes relating to the arming of merchant vessels and requisitioning of United States-owned vessels.

WANTS ACT TO REMAIN

President Truman recommends that the Act of 1941 permitting the arming of United States merchant vessels should be continued until June, 30, 1948, pending the action of permanent legislation. The President also recommends that the Act of 1942 suspending import duties on scrap iron should be continued in view of the shortage of scrap iron.

President Truman continued: "The recommendations I have present for consideration of Congress will, if accepted, materially assist in further freeing the country of war controls and will help to make possible the early ending of emergencies. I have ordered commanding study the question of termination of the emergencies proclaimed in 1939 and 1941 and intend to take action as soon as circumstances permit."—Reuter.

HIT HIGH CLOUDS

The planes went past the 15,100-foot Mount Markham and other known peaks, reduced their altitude and then, at the end of the northward trek, turned east toward McMurdo Sound between the mountains but high enough to get over the 13,000-foot Mount Lister. They then hit high clouds and had to climb 14,000 feet with the temperature 40 degrees below zero.

There they contacted the ice-breaker Burton Island, which is now observing the weather in McMurdo Sound.

The plane circled the volcano's height at 13,500 feet. —United Press.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Posts close 10 minutes earlier than the time stated below.

Salon, Singapore, Colombo, Sydney, Auckland, London, 3.30 p.m.

Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Canton, 3.30 p.m.

Manila, 3 p.m.

Macau, Tsinwan, Shekki, 3 p.m.

Saigon, 3 p.m.

Train: Canton, 4 p.m.

Airmail: Friday, February 21

Manila, 10 a.m.

Macau, 10 a.m., Nanking, Hankow, Twantao, Peiping, 3 p.m.

Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Cairo, Cairo, Johannesburg, Augusta, 3.30 p.m.

Manila, 3 p.m.

Swatow, 10 a.m.

San Francisco, 3 p.m.

Shanghai, 2 p.m.

Train: Tsinwan, Shekki, 3 p.m.

Manila, 3 p.m.

Canton, 4 p.m.

Saturday, February 22

Dangkor, Singapore, Colombo, Sourabaya, Sydney, Auckland, 3.30 p.m.

Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.

Cairo, 3.30 p.m.

Saigon, London, 3.30 p.m.

Canton, Liuchow, Kunming, 3.30 p.m.

Train:

Canton, 4 p.m.

Sunday, February 23

Airmail:

Dangkor, Singapore, Colombo, Sourabaya, Sydney, Auckland, 3.30 p.m.

Calcutta, 3.30 p.m.

Cairo, 3.30 p.m.

Saigon, London, 3.30 p.m.

Canton, Liuchow, Kunming, 3.30 p.m.

Train:

Canton, 4 p.m.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZB2W on a frequency of 845 kilocycles

and also on 5.52 megacycles in the 31

metre band, 1230 to 1.15, 5.30 to 1.15, 5.30 to 11.15 p.m.

HKCT.

5.30 p.m.: "Children's Hour"; 6.30

p.m.: "Hospital Friends"; Selections by Patients' Hospital, arranged by Lynn Frazer; 7. London: "Hans' News" 7.10; London: "Hans' Music Time"; 7.45

Interlude: 7.55

Television Services: "It's a Pleasure"; 8.20 STUDIOS: "The Television Production Review"; A Review of the latest Programs produced by ZB2W. Arranged and Presented by Bobbie Lee; 9.00 London: "Hans' News" 9.10; STUDIOS: "Giant" 9.30; "The Jazz Octet"; 10. "Choices of Life"; 10.40 Mozart; Trio No. 1; Flute and Clarinet; Kenter (Piano); Reinhold Kell (Clarinet); and Frederick Riddle (Violin); 11. "Close Down".

The types of foreign exchange covered by the new regulations are:

Firstly, bank deposits and credits;

Secondly, telegraphic transfers, demands, sight and time drafts; cheques and notes due in one year or less, letters of credit and bank and trade acceptances;

Thirdly, government bonds, bills, treasury notes, savings certificates or other obligations due within one year or less; and

Fourthly, other negotiable instruments due within one year if they are in foreign currencies.—Reuter.

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TO-DAY & TO-MORROW

Byrd Airmen Find More Undiscovered Territory

Little America, Feb. 19. Eclipsed the vapour-shrouded own active volcano, Mount after a flight through the high mountain range system which studs the western shore of Ross Sea.

EMPIRE'S DEFENCE

DECLARED OUT OF ALIGNMENT

London, Feb. 20.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Philip Joubert declared yesterday that the Empire's defence framework was "somewhat out of alignment" because of troubles in the Middle and Far East.